

Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments

City of Arvada City of Boulder Boulder County
City of Broomfield Jefferson County Town of Superior City of Westminster

Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 1, 2001
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
Multipurpose Room
Westminster City Hall, Westminster

Board members in attendance: Tom Brunner (Director, Broomfield), Hank Stovall (Alternate, Broomfield), Ken Fellman (Alternate, Arvada), Mary Harlow (Alternate, Westminster), Mike Weil (Alternate, City of Boulder), Paul Danish* (Director, Boulder County), Karen Imbierowicz (Director, Superior), Michelle Lawrence* (Director, Jefferson County), Nanette Neelan* (Alternate, Jefferson County).

Note: Initially, there were only five voting Board members in attendance.

*Arrived at time indicated.

Coalition staff members and consultants in attendance: David Abelson (Executive Director), Melissa Anderson (Technical Program Manager), Kimberly Chleboun (Program Manager), and Barbara Vander Wall (Seter & Vander Wall, P.C.).

Members of the Public: John Corsi (Kaiser-Hill), Dick Sexton (Kaiser-Hill), Bob Nininger (Kaiser-Hill), Jeremy Karpatkin (DOE), Bob Bistline (DOE), Mark Sattleberg (USFWS), Kathleen Rutherford (CDPHE), Steve Tarlton (CDPHE), Steve Gunderson (CDPHE), Tim Rehder (EPA), Rob Henneke (EPA), Jerry DePoorter (RFCAB), Ken Korkia (RFCAB), Michelle Kump (RFCAB), Shirley Garcia (City of Broomfield), Kristi Pollard (Senator Allard), Doug Young (Congressman Udall), Doris DePenning (Friends of the Foothills), Hildegard Hix (Sierra Club), Paula Elofson-Gardine (Environmental Information Network), Filiberto Cruz (RFSOIU Local #1), Joe Goldfield (RSALOP), Brent McFall (Westminster), Ron Hellbusch (Westminster).

Convene/Agenda Review

No members of the Executive Committee were yet in attendance, so Tom Brunner called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. He introduced the new Westminster City Manager, Brent McFall, who welcomed the Coalition and audience members to Westminster for the Board meeting and Health Effects Workshop.

Business Items

1. **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda** - Karen Imbierowicz motioned to approve the consent agenda. Mary Harlow seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
2. **Executive Director's Report** – David Abelson began by discussing how the terrorist attacks of September 11th had affected the Rocky Flats site. He explained DOE had

ADMIN RECORD

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immediately halted all waste shipments. Shipment of low-level and transuranic (TRU) waste have resumed, but materials shipping is still on hold. This delay has not yet affected the Site since material shipments are not scheduled to go to the Savannah River Site until later this month, although resolving that shipment issue has also been postponed. Additionally, extra security measures have been put in place, including random checks of cars and badges, more physical barriers and roving patrols, bomb-sniffing dogs, and limited onsite meetings. The guard towers demolition was also postponed until November. Second, David discussed status of the refuge bill, which was attached to the National Defense Authorization Act by Senator Allard. He said the bill had already been approved by the House and may be voted on in the Senate tomorrow. Third, David distributed copies of the Coalition quarterly financial report. Fourth, he advised the Board he will be leaving October 12th for three weeks of vacation. Last, David asked the Board if they had any comments on the draft Coalition letter faxed to them the prior Friday regarding the ER RSOP. He asked for approval to send the letter pending minor changes. The Board said nothing and Ken Fellman said David could take the silence as consent. Paul Danish said substantial changes could be handled via phone and fax.

3. **Big Picture** - David reviewed the big picture. At the November meeting Senator Allard is scheduled to meet with the Board. Future agenda items will also include the FY02 strategic plan and budget. Paul asked if the Site could be put in production again, considered recent national events. David said the mission is still closure, and DOE has already started a new facility in an undisclosed location for pit production. Tom Brunner noted the heightened Site security would most likely affect the budget, and the Board would have to be realistic about the impact it might have on cleanup. Mary Harlow suggested including a list of priority, high risk projects in the Coalition strategic plan. David said they would begin discussing the strategic plan at the next staff meeting.

*Nanette Neelan arrived at 8:21 a.m., Paul Danish at 8:22 a.m., and Michelle Lawrence at 8:23 a.m.

CDPHE and EPA Briefing

David Abelson said the Board had invited Steve Gunderson, CDPHE, and Tim Rehder, EPA, to engage in this discussion in order to get their sense of Site issues and progress, and to increase the Board's dialogue with these regulatory agencies.

Steve started out by describing the current state of events onsite. Enhanced security is in place indefinitely. He confirmed all waste shipments were halted until last week. Two TRU waste shipments from INEEL, which were in safe parking at the Site, and one Site shipment went out last week. The Site hopes to be sending up to 7 shipments of TRU waste per week to the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) soon and 9 per week by the end of the year. Steve also confirmed there has still been no resolution regarding shipments to the Savannah River Site, but the Site is still preparing materials for shipping in the event issues are resolved. The RFCA parties do not have the authority to enforce the shipment schedule of special nuclear material (SNM), but it does fall under the Atomic Energy Act and is subject to Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board milestones for getting material ready to ship, which are not subject to penalty. If delayed shipments affect closure, however, there are regulatory milestones for closure dates. Steve said the date of the last waste shipment would be critical. He noted progress of low-level waste shipments, in relation to the baseline, is ahead of schedule and the D&D schedule is at 98%. Steve explained getting waste offsite involves a complex and rigorous characterization and permit process which will continue to remain a big challenge, especially if additional TRU waste is identified late in the schedule. Due to the complexity of this process, the Site has not been able to move TRU waste

offsite as quickly as they had hoped and are not where they would like to be on the schedule. If TRU waste is not moved early in the schedule, it means the Site will have to expend resources on it later in the schedule, which may impact other work being performed at that point in time, such as D&D and environmental remediation.

Steve then described projects coming up FY02, including demolition of Building 111, which is a Type 1 facility. They also expect to demolish Type 2 buildings 886 and 865. The Site will focus attention on the Southside, an area consisting of non-plutonium facilities, and break work into sections to integrate D&D work with environmental restoration. Tim added all three agencies are drafting the RSAL Task 3 report and it should be ready for review by October 17. It will then go to the RFCA Stakeholder Focus Group and peer review, and a public meeting will be held October 30. Tim said it should be out for formal public comment by November, and after that the RFCA parties should have a recommended action level. He noted they have not yet decided upon a risk level. Tom Brunner asked if there would be any other challenges ahead the Coalition should be aware of. Steve said in light of recent events and possible further budget constraints the community should define their cleanup priorities. Currently, the biggest priority is getting buildings down and materials shipped offsite, but there should also be environmental restoration priorities. Steve added the original landfill will pose a technical challenge and they will start reviewing remedy options for it this fall. Tim also said security will have to remain high as long as materials are onsite. Paul Danish asked they still felt it had been the correct decision to shrink the protected area. Steve said the original configuration would not have provided any extra value in this type of terrorist attack. He explained the area was protected because the buildings had contained SNM, not because the buildings were contaminated. Now all of the SNM is contained in Building 371, which is the strongest building onsite and is surrounded by higher security than the original protected area had been. The workers now have easier access to the buildings, and D&D work can proceed at a better pace.

Public Comment

Doug Young said when Rep. Udall was at the September Board meeting he had discussed the importance of keeping the Rocky Flats communities in one congressional district. Doug then provided copies of a letter Rep. Udall sent to the Colorado State Legislature confirming this position.

The meeting was adjourned by Paul Danish at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberly Chleboun, Program Manager

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